

**To: All Providers Except Nursing Home, Pharmacy,
Ambulance, Dental and Mental Health/Rehab**

Delay in the Implementation of Patient 1st

Due to the extensive damage caused by Hurricane Ivan, the Agency will be rescheduling the implementation of the Patient 1st Program for Phases One and Two. This change will allow our providers and recipients to recover and rebuild prior to the start of the Program. The new implementation schedule will be as follows:

Phase One: February 1, 2005

Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Dallas, Escambia, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Mobile, Monroe, Perry, Sumter, Washington and Wilcox

Phase Two: February 1, 2005

Autauga, Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Chambers, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Elmore, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Montgomery, Pike, Russell

Phase Three: December 1, 2004 (originally scheduled date)

Calhoun, Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, Colbert, Coosa, DeKalb, Etowah, Franklin, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan, Randolph, Talladega, Tallapoosa

Phase Four: January 1, 2005 (originally scheduled date)

Bibb, Blount, Chilton, Cullman, Fayette, Jefferson, Lamar, Pickens, Shelby, St. Clair, Tuscaloosa, Walker, Winston

Phase One Providers: Recipients will be receiving a postcard telling them that the program is being postponed until February. Their assignment will remain on file and they will be able to change up until January 20th. Around the 1st of January, we will send them a reminder postcard of the new effective date and their PMP assignment. Once providers have a chance to regroup from the storm, we will be contacting the offices to determine participation.

Phase Two Providers: We will maintain your application on file. If you have not completed your application to date, please do so and submit it to EDS. Agency and EDS staff will continue to work with historical providers for which no application has been received and others to resolve identified problems with applications.

Phase Three Providers: Please submit your application ASAP. If you have not received an application, the form can be downloaded from the WEB or you may contact the Agency and one will be mailed to you. Agency staff will begin contacting providers to facilitate the application process. *If your application is not received prior to the assignment process, then historical patients will be assigned elsewhere.*

Phase Four Providers: You will be receiving your application in the mail in the coming days. If you do not receive an application, the form can be downloaded from the WEB or you may contact the Agency and one will be mailed to you.

Thank you for your patience as we work to reimplement the Patient 1st Program. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the following numbers:

EDS Provider Enrollment: 1-888-223-3630

EDS Provider Assistance Center: 1-800-688-7989

Patient 1st Program: (334) 353-5907 or (334) 242-5148 or (334) 242-5011

Recipient Hotline: 1-800-362-1504

WEB Address: www.medicaid.state.al.us

September 30, 2004